

ADDRESSES OF WELCOME AND RESPONSES AT A
LUNCHEON GIVEN AT THE CITY AUDITORIUM
BY THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY
OF HOUSTON

MAYOR RICE: *Ladies and Gentlemen*—This day marks an epoch in the history of our city. As head of the municipal government I have the pleasant privilege of extending a hearty welcome to our guests by whose presence the day is made historic. We are profoundly grateful to the distinguished gentlemen who have come across the seas to do honor to our city and State on this occasion. Equally grateful are we to the many citizens of our great republic and to our fellow-citizens of Texas who are assembled here in the name of civilization.

Though Houston is a comparatively young town, we have the energy and progressive spirit by which every young city in America, I believe, is characterized, and it gives me untold satisfaction to know that in the commercial strife incident to the great development of our country we still have the ability to recognize the necessity of cultivating the mind of man and giving him broad and thorough education. Of the institution which is opened to-day modesty forbids me to speak. To those who are going to make it a success and to those who have made great colleges a success I leave the expression of opinions which I might hesitate to form. But to all the distinguished guests of the new university I desire to say that although our city is small, as cities are measured, and thus unable to offer many of the entertainments and attractions of larger metropolitan cities, the hospitality we offer you comes from our hearts, and our desire to make your visit a pleasant one is not to be measured in any respect by the size or ways of the town, but by the ways and size of the human heart itself.

I now have the pleasure, ladies and gentlemen, of introducing to you the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Rice Institute, a gentleman of high standing in this community, who has done a great work in its behalf—Mr. James A. Baker of Houston.

MR. JAMES A. BAKER: *Your Excellency the Governor, your Honor the Mayor, and you my Friends and Guests of the Rice Institute*—I am commissioned by the Rice Institute, whose dedication is to letters, science, and art, to extend to you, collectively and individually, a cordial welcome, not only to the halls and home of the new institution, but also to the homes and hearts of the people of the whole city of Houston.

As America a little more than a hundred years ago achieved her national independence and established on her eastern shores an asylum for those seeking liberty, so, too, have we, through the magnificent generosity of William Marsh Rice, established in the far Southwest the Rice Institute, an asylum of learning; and in the name of this new university I extend a welcome to all to come and drink from the fountains of knowledge which have been provided for this festal occasion.

And especially do we extend a glad welcome to those of our guests who have come to us from foreign lands.

A joyous welcome indeed to the representatives of the great French Republic; for it was she who more than a century ago recognized the independence of this country and gave to America the brilliant Lafayette, who in turn gave us generously of his blood and fortune, that the spirit of liberty might flourish upon our shores.

An equally warm and cordial welcome to the representatives of the great German Empire—the Fatherland. She

not only furnished us a distinguished soldier who fought with our forefathers the battles of our Revolution, but she has freely given us thousands upon thousands of the sturdy citizenship of our people, who have cultivated the waste fields of the State and nation until they bloom as the rose.

A warm and joyous welcome to the distinguished representatives of imperial Spain, for to her we are indebted for the patronage of the intrepid discoverer of America. In the heartiness of this welcome we wish you to feel that all of the wounds inflicted by the late unpleasantness between Spain and America have long since been healed in the recollection of the bravery and the heroism of the soldiers of both armies.

And a threefold welcome to the distinguished representatives of grand old England and merry old Scotland. In coming to America you come among us as kinsmen who are flesh of our flesh and blood of our blood. All the years which lie between 1776 and this year 1912 have only served to teach us mutual sympathy and to strengthen the bonds that bind our hearts to our mother-country.

Welcome, thrice welcome, one and all, to the hearts and homes of our people.

MAYOR RICE: It is my pleasure to introduce to this audience the Governor of Texas; and when I say the Governor of Texas I mean the man who governs the largest area of land as a State in the American Union, and who, as a typical American, stands before the people of the United States as the chief executive of this great commonwealth—the Honorable O. B. Colquitt, Governor of Texas.

GOVERNOR O. B. COLQUITT: *Mr. Mayor, Guests of the Rice Institute, of the City of Houston, and of the State of Texas, Ladies and Gentlemen*—The most humble citizen of

Texas may enjoy the privilege of being governor of this State, and on this occasion I feel myself to be the most humble of the humble. I am glad to be present on this occasion. I feel that I am indeed fortunate in being present. As chief executive of this State I am proud to come to Houston and welcome the representatives of American and foreign universities, distinguished scholars and scientists of England, France, and Holland, of Germany, Italy, and Spain, who have come to participate in the inauguration of the Rice Institute.

Within seventeen miles of this city is the San Jacinto battle-field, where the Republic of Texas was born. In this city of Houston, which used to be the capital of the State, within three blocks of this auditorium, the Congress of the Republic of Texas used to assemble in a log cabin, and to that log cabin the nations of the earth sent their representatives in recognition of the republic. And now, in these latter days, you have the Rice Institute, a great private institution magnificently housed for the public good, and the nations of the earth send their representatives here to welcome it into the fold of educational institutions.

With a handful of men under the leadership of Sam Houston, the independence of the republic was achieved in 1836. Since that day the progress of the American people has been truly wonderful. The progress of the people of Texas has been even greater. We have builded without assistance a magnificent civilization. I say without assistance, for even William Marsh Rice's splendid contribution was a product of Texas, because, although a native of Massachusetts, he came to Texas in his early boyhood and here made his fortune and his career.

I am happy to welcome you to Texas because Texas is made up of people from all the nations, and some of the

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best people we have are among those who have come from other nations. I am proud to say that my own mother's family came from Holland, and that the adjutant-general of my staff is an Englishman.

I am proud, my friends, of the State of Texas. I am proud of its magnificent territory, proud of the progress that we are making in educational matters; and I want to say to you that as governor of Texas I am proud of the form of its government and of the government of this nation, the government of Washington and Jefferson, of Madison and Franklin. They founded a government based on a written constitution, written for the purpose of defining and limiting the power of the government. Freedom of conscience, freedom of religion, the right of each man to listen to the dictates of his own conscience, these are the proudest heritage of American citizenship enjoyed under this constitutional government. And I want to say, without disparagement to any other nation, that there has been more advancement in science since the Declaration of American Independence than there was during six thousand years before.

As I said a moment ago, the capital of this State, of the Republic of Texas, used to stand within three blocks of where you are now sitting. Representatives of foreign nations, of the French Government and of the English and German empires, came to Houston to represent their people at the capital of the Republic of Texas. In the meantime, we had knocked at the door of the American Union for entrance; our knocking was finally answered, and we became a part of this Union, and to-day we are the proudest part of these United States.

The Mayor of the city of Houston was very modest indeed when he told us that Houston is a small city. I want to say that Houston is not a small city, and I welcome you

not only to the largest State in the Union, but to the largest-hearted municipality you will find between the rising and the setting of the sun. And now I want to invite those of you who are looking for a haven of prosperity, a haven of political and religious peace, to make your permanent residence in Texas. We do not ask your religion, we do not ask your politics, we do not ask you where you graduated—I had not the chance to graduate anywhere myself. All we ask is, Are you a man? We judge men by their merits. All shall have equal protection under the law. We are a truly cosmopolitan people, and live by the freedom of democracy. The Rice Institute is one of the results of this freedom of spirit. This spirit of independence, this spirit of hope, this spirit of progress prevails everywhere throughout Texas. And, my friends, I want to say that so far as I am concerned, and so far as my influence might go, I would rather have founded the Rice Institute and provided for its maintenance to educate the hearts and the minds of the people of Texas than to be emperor of any foreign nation of the earth.

Now, Mr. Mayor, I came here without any written speech. I have been so busy attending to the necessary affairs of the people who occupy the territory extending from Orange to El Paso, a distance of nine hundred and thirty miles, and from Brownsville at the mouth of the Rio Grande to Amarillo, a distance of nearly eleven hundred miles, that I have not had time to prepare a speech for you; but a man who is governor of a territory so extensive has so many features of life presented to him daily that he is always bold enough to make a speech on any occasion.

Again I thank you one and all for coming to Houston and for the distinction you are lending the city and the State on this auspicious occasion, and again I welcome you from the

bottom of my heart, and I speak for the entire citizenship of Texas in extending you that welcome.

MAYOR RICE: We have listened to Governor Colquitt's cordial address of welcome, and now we are going to have the great pleasure of listening to a response from one of our most distinguished foreign visitors, Professor Sir William Ramsay of London, England, who, with Lady Ramsay, has come to assist in the launching of Houston's university.

PROFESSOR SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY: *Your Excellency, your Honor, Ladies and Gentlemen*—I have to make one remark before beginning, and that is to allude to the way in which the mayor expressed his invitation of welcome. He called me a "foreign visitor." I decline that aspersion. I am not a foreign visitor. When we have the pleasure of receiving you Americans in London, we don't call you foreigners. We don't expect to be called foreigners when we come to your country.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, what your mayor has said about the progress of education is true. It is absolutely true. The governor has hinted that the progress of education, the progress of science, has been contemporaneous with the separation of America from England. That reminds me that I once heard your ambassador to Great Britain, Mr. Choate, make the following remark at a dinner given on the occasion of the ninth jubilee of the foundation of the University of Glasgow, which took place in 1901. He said: "Your institution was founded in the year 1451, about the same date as that on which America was discovered. Before that you had what you justly called the 'dark ages.' "

We are separated, America and Britain, but we on our side welcome the close alliance which now exists. I see in

front of me the word "Peace." I am reminded of one of your great cities in America—Philadelphia—and of its motto, "*Philadelphia maneto*" ("Let brotherly love continue"). I also see numerals on the same flag on which is written the word "Peace," running from one to ten, which I presume is intended to recall the ten commandments. I presume it is intended to mean that the people here are not to break them. Well, ladies and gentlemen, up to the ninth commandment I am willing to obey; but when it comes to the tenth, I am not quite sure. I have seen the Rice Institute this morning, I have read its papers, and I know what it intends to do, and I am not sure that you have done right to show us the Rice Institute before suggesting to us that tenth commandment.

We know you have before you a magnificent career. You have begun it well by making appointments of eminent men to be your professors. You have begun it well by the number of students whom you have enrolled. I am told that only about one fourth of those who could have attended and who could have come in have been accepted. You are going to keep your standard high.

Well, gentlemen, there is one thing that has struck me as a danger threatening American universities. It is the large number of students enrolled. These numbers are growing too large. Let me give you a specific instance. The professor of chemistry in the University of California told me lately that he had over two thousand students to teach. To teach two thousand students is an impossibility. What can you do? My suggestion is this, that you increase the number of your teachers. Don't appoint assistants, teachers, lecturers, but create entirely separate departments. If you require two professors of philosophy, have them at double expense. It pays. You cannot turn out students as you

would needles or wire or nails. Learned men cannot be made like them. Each student must come into personal contact with his teachers.

And now, gentlemen, speaking for your foreign visitors and guests, I have the honor to express our gratitude to you for having given us this opportunity of coming among you. We have passed, my wife and I, through this great country of Texas. Of course I suppose that while alongside of a railroad one sees the homes and the farms of the settlers, when one goes back of a railroad the country loses signs of being inhabited, yet what we have seen of the country has been magnificent. It is evidently very fertile, and it is becoming populated, and you have only to wait and let immigration take place to have Texas become one of the greatest imperial States of this country, and one of the finest in the world.

We have come to you, we have come to see your country, we have come to make friends with you, and I now desire that you will give us every opportunity to do so.

I thank you very heartily for your cordial reception.

I will now use a custom which is not included in American gatherings of this kind, but is common at similar gatherings on the continent of Europe; it is to raise my glass and drink to "The Prosperity of the Rice Institute."

MAYOR RICE: Professor William Henry Carpenter, Provost of Columbia University, is one of our guests from the Metropolis of the Union. He has kindly consented to respond for the Eastern institutions. With great pleasure I present him to you.

PROVOST WILLIAM HENRY CARPENTER: *Ladies and Gentlemen*—The life of every human being in retrospect, I

imagine, has its quota of regrets for hopes unfulfilled and for opportunities wasted. Since I have been sitting at this table, I have added still another to my own total of regrets, and that is a regret that I am not a citizen of this great commonwealth of Texas. The governor's speech has filled me with desire. I belong to a community which, to be sure, has played its historical part in the evolution of a nation; but nevertheless, when I think over its past in connection with the governor's glowing picture of the future, it seems to me what we have done is little in amount and significance in its ultimate effect as an influential part of the whole.

The president of the Rice Institute has asked me to say a word on behalf of the Eastern institutions of learning. In thinking over what I was to say before I came here, it seemed difficult to make a choice where so much might be said at the launching of a new educational enterprise under the peculiarly favorable conditions that attend the present. Some thoughts, however, have suggested themselves, that perhaps may be presented as bearing upon the occasion that has called us together.

The one thing that I have thought of is the object-lesson that is made by such a gathering of men as are present here to-day. For it seems to me that no gathering of men, for whatever purpose it is arranged, or in whatever spirit it is intended, is so significant as is an assemblage of this kind, that has brought learned men across the seas and from so many parts of this great republic.

No gathering of men speaks so much for the solidarity of human interests as does an educational gathering such as this. There are other gatherings of men that have for their object the extending of the propaganda of some particular subject. There are political conventions that are got together in a state or in a nation for a single definite purpose.

But here is a gathering from the ends of the earth for a purpose that is broader in its intention and its results than any other—the common purpose of education.

And another thing comes to my mind in looking over the names of the delegates to your celebration. I have thought not only of the solidarity of interest, but of the permanency of interest that is indicated by the gathering here to-day.

No human institution is so permanent as a university. Dynasties may come and go, political parties may rise and fall, the influences of men may change, but the universities and what they stand for go on forever. Oxford and Cambridge have outlasted changes of party and of policy. The University of Paris has withstood a revolution that transformed the face of the nation, but it exists to-day stronger than ever before. The University of Bologna, to go further afield, stands almost alone as a monument of previous greatness in a city whose importance is wholly a thing of the past and whose very existence has almost been forgotten. And in our country universities have been founded that have outlasted the long list of presidents of the republic. Harvard and Yale and Princeton and Columbia, in fact, have witnessed the change from the colonial government of England to the democracy of the present day. Whigs and Tories have come and gone, political waves have risen to the surface and have been submerged, generations of men have lived and died, but these universities have gone on their way to the present time, and, well founded, they will go on forever.

No human activity is so permanent as the influence of the university, and the opportunities of the university are greater to-day than they have ever been before in the civilized world. This is possibly true as well of the great industries of this great country, and the two—industry and education—

go more and more hand in hand together. The present time is pre-eminently a time of awakening in industry and education alike, and industry, in its many-sided interests, is looking more and more to education, even in an age that is called material, for enlightenment and support. Out of the laboratories of the universities are coming to an increasing extent the influences that make for economic and industrial improvement and contribute to the betterment of human living and to the good of mankind.

In America we have had in education an era of theology at the beginning, which was succeeded by an era of law, and which, in its turn, has been succeeded by the era of science in which we at the present time live. It seems to me that the time is ripe for the founding of a university such as the Rice Institute will doubtless develop into in the near future. There is in my mind, and in the minds of many who have carefully watched the signs of the times, the possibility of the development of a new interest in America in the arts and in letters and in all the liberal knowledge that is included under these names. By taking advantage of the opportunity which is plainly open to you in working out your educational plan, and by firmly basing a scientific superstructure only upon a broad cultural foundation, you will not only exercise an important influence in that movement of enlightenment that is sweeping through this part of the world, as the governor has so proudly and eloquently explained to us, but you will contribute your part to a movement that presently, unless all signs fail, will extend over the United States.

There is an old motto, a motto that has come down out of the distant past: "*Ex oriente lux*" ("Light comes out of the East"). In the establishment of the Rice Institute you have done something that in a future that may not be distant will lead us to say, "*Ex occidente lux*," as well, for light will

surely come to us out of the West as a consequence of your action.

Well, gentlemen, I do not know that I have much more to say. I should, however, after all, like to say just one more word about the opportunities of a great university, such as this in the future is to be, as a factor in the life of the nation.

Somebody has said, "The weaknesses of a democracy are the opportunities of education." I think there is a great deal in that to ponder over, because a democracy—this democracy—does have its weakness as well as its strength. A great weakness, as I see it, in this democracy is the indifference that largely prevails throughout the country to the broader education of the body of the people. If we go on along those lines in the future as we frequently follow them to-day, we shall develop here in America not at all what the forefathers of the republic had in mind when they signed the Declaration of Independence, and we shall have a government of the many by the few, instead of a government by all, as is inherent in the very life of a democracy. It is the business of the educator to recognize this weakness, to come down from his heights into the valleys, and to work in the light that has been given him for the extension of educational opportunity that will make in the end for the salvation of his country.

Now, gentlemen, in closing, I wish to extend to the Rice Institute, so auspiciously founded to-day, the congratulations of the older Eastern universities upon your entrance into the work of education—a work, maybe, that has its discouragements, but which has in an extraordinary measure its profound satisfactions. My university—Columbia University in the City of New York—was founded back in 1754, so that I am speaking in a way, at least by proxy, out of the

depths of time and experience. I wish, however, not merely to bring to you the felicitations of our universities in the East on your birthday, but to extend to you by a heartfelt grasp of the hand an invitation to join our ranks, in what seems to me in many ways to be more than almost any other human institution whatever, a community of the immortals.

I thank you, gentlemen.

MAYOR RICE: It is now my pleasure to introduce to this audience Professor Vito Volterra of the University of Rome, life Senator of the Italian Kingdom, whom we welcome most cordially from the south of Europe to this southern country of the American nation.

PROFESSOR SENATOR VOLTERRA: *Mr. Governor, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen*—I should like first of all to declare my great pleasure in being present at this festival, and my appreciation of the cordial and bountiful hospitality that I have found here in Houston. Allow me to express the feeling of admiration that I experience in visiting this great new country, an admiration that has changed only to increase since my last coming to America. Your high civilization and enterprising spirit have been able to conquer an entire continent, to create as if by enchantment marvelous cities like this which we are visiting now. These grow up in a few years. They provide themselves not only with all the modern comforts which make existence easy and agreeable, but also reach a high place in life that is intellectual and moral. And we see here to-day one of the most notable examples of this spirit, as we inaugurate this magnificent university, the gift of William Marsh Rice. He has rendered to the culture of his country a magnificent, well-conceived service.

No institution could more impress the mind, could make more manifest the difference between the old continent which we have left, and this country, full of youth and spirit, which we have found. Our universities have ancient and most deep-reaching traditions. Every idea that has been developed in moral and intellectual fields, from the time of the distant Middle Ages until to-day, has left its impress upon them, and their life exhibits always the results of this long development of customs and thought. But you have created institutions from the beginning and at once, universities in which you can accommodate everything to the demands of the present, without the embarrassment of a single relic from the past.

Yet the men of the old universities of Europe, and those who constitute the new ones in America, have the same high aspirations and scientific ideals in common. Rendering mutual aid, they can and ought to march together. Both should bring their contributions to the collective labor that tends to scientific progress and evolution.

It is for this reason that I see with such great joy, united here before me, the representatives of these two continents.

MAYOR RICE: I now have the honor of introducing to you Professor Sir Henry Jones of the University of Glasgow. We welcome this distinguished philosopher warmly from a city whose example we have sought to emulate in the Houston ship-channel.

PROFESSOR SIR HENRY JONES: *Your Excellency the Governor of Texas, your Honor the Mayor of Houston, Ladies and Gentlemen*—We have been told many things this afternoon, and told them well. You will pardon me, I am sure, if my words are few; I am not convinced that though they

were many they would add to the value of those to which you have already listened with such courtesy and so gladly.

But I have two duties to perform, and I can neglect neither. The first is to express my satisfaction in being present amongst so many lovers of learning not only from this city but from the States of America and of western and southern Europe. I count it a great privilege. On the last occasion of such a gathering as this at which I was present, the jubilee of Lord Kelvin as professor in the University of Glasgow was being celebrated. Professor Ker of London University compared it to heaven. "You meet so many old friends," he said, "and you are so surprised to see them."

My second duty and my still greater privilege is to join with you all in good wishes for the prosperity of the Rice Institute. You are entering to-day, ladies and gentlemen, upon an enterprise whose significance for the future no man can measure. There is no doubt as to the means whereby man masters his world and converts its blind forces into beneficent powers. They are the same means, in the last resort, as those which help him in the still more difficult enterprise of mastering himself. They have all one, and only one, purpose. It is that of so operating upon the mind of man as first to awaken and then to foster that passion for truth which is the condition of all sincerity in conduct as well as of all advancement in knowledge, and which brings a clear conscience as well as a clear mind. Your Institute, in the last resort, is dedicated to the making of character—and character, good or bad, builds up or pulls down civilization. It is the greatest thing in the world. With all my heart I desire your prosperity in your dealing with it, for in it is the true measure of the attainment of the end which you have set before you in the Rice Institute—"the advancement of literature, science, and art."

MAYOR RICE: We have among our guests Dr. George Cary Comstock of the University of Wisconsin. It is now my pleasure to present him to you, with a request that he speak not only for his own university, but for the other institutions of the West.

DEAN GEORGE CARY COMSTOCK: *Your Excellency the Governor, your Honor the Mayor, my Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen*—On behalf of the university I represent—Wisconsin—and on behalf of her sister universities of the Middle West, in so far as I may speak for them, it is with great pleasure that I return to you our thanks for the courtesies that we have received on this occasion, and our appreciation of the very warm hospitality that the city of Houston and the State of Texas have extended to us.

But I stand here, Mr. Mayor, not simply as the recipient of your kind hospitality, but as your fellow-countryman in welcoming the addition of a new star to the educational firmament of this land. I desire to join with you especially in extending my share of recognition and praise to that new name that has been added to the list of distinguished benefactors of American learning and science, to that list which, beginning with Harvard and Yale and continuing in unbroken line through the generations of our forefathers, to-day has added to its roll the name of William Marsh Rice.

We stand at the beginnings of the Rice Institute, a notable foundation placed in the midst of an empire ready for its service. It is the function of its honorable president and its Board of Trustees to care for the future of that institution, to determine the lines along which its development shall take place; and far be it from me upon this occasion to express to them aught other than sympathy for their undertaking. Words of advice are not needed, and would indeed

be out of place at this time. But I may speak to some of you gentlemen here, who are men of affairs, who enjoy the fruits that come out of the educational policy of our land, and who desire to see that policy grow and bear fruit fairer and better than any yet realized.

The greatest Englishman of our day, politician, administrator, financier—I mean the late Cecil Rhodes—cherished such desires from boyhood to the close of his career, and dying at the height of his power and influence, left a vast fortune to be devoted mainly to such ends. Let me put before you briefly his aspiration and the purpose that he sought to accomplish by endowing at Oxford University some two hundred scholarships to be filled by the most promising youth that could be collected from English-speaking lands; young men of power and purpose, of moral aspiration as well as scholarly attainment, who were to be assembled at that ancient seat of British culture, “for breadth of view, for instruction in life and manners,” and—mark the vision of the empire-builder!—“to secure an attachment to the country from which they have sprung.” Does his vision appeal to you? Is it worth while to bring together during their impressionable years the youth that have shown promise of future leadership and to give to them a common training in the best traditions of the race? To wear down the corners of prejudice, to round out the defects of provincialism, to fill up the gaps of ancestral experience? Rhodes thought it was. I share his belief, and I appeal to you, gentlemen, shall this remain only a British ideal? May we not look forward to its Americanization? May there not be placed upon the head of the Rice Institute a great crown of glory in that it shall be a center toward which the youth of the world shall come to be trained in the ideals of American life and

light, of religion and liberty, for the use and profit of the whole earth?

But, gentlemen, I turn from this concept to another expressed with equal clearness in the words of Cecil Rhodes, and which seems also noteworthy, albeit in a very different way. Having confided to Oxford the splendid commission above suggested, he pays his respects to its personnel in the words: "As the college authorities live secluded from the world, and are so like children as to commercial matters, I would advise them to consult my trustees," etc. On behalf of our American universities, let me disclaim any such concept as to the kind of men that should compose the faculty of an institution of learning. We of the North and Middle West believe that a great university should be an institution to which the community may turn for guidance, for leadership, for expert advice in matters of science and scholarship that lie beyond the range of every-day experience. It should be a place in which knowledge grows; in which, year by year, substantial additions are made to science, to letters, and to art; but in no less measure should it be a place in which that knowledge is utilized for the benefit of the man on the street. A major function of the university is to make abstract science concrete and profitable to mankind, and that end cannot be secured by the dreamy recluse of Mr. Rhodes. That type indeed has its uses, and with its disappearance something would be lost from the sweetness of life, but let us not trust to it alone for our academic staff.

Here are two ideas that I would bring before you: that the institution in whose home we meet to-day has before it an extraordinary opportunity to serve humanity as one of its nerve-centers, and that it will be a stimulus to youth summoned hither from an area far wider than the prairies of

Texas and placed under the influence of men awake to the needs and tendencies of the times and capable of giving will and heart to service that shall be as thorough and competent as it is devoted.

And now let me bid you join in pledging to the Rice Institute and its successful fulfilment of its mission that good old academic toast:

"Vivat, crescat, floreat in eternum!"

MAYOR RICE: Among the university presidents of the East who have come to visit us at this time is the distinguished president of Lehigh University, Dr. Henry Sturgis Drinker. I have great pleasure in asking him to address you.

PRESIDENT HENRY STURGIS DRINKER: *Governor Colquitt, Mayor Rice, President Lovett*—Among the gracious words of welcome which have greeted us who have come from distant points to rejoice with you to-day were words of kindly thanks and appreciation for our presence here. Sirs, it is for us from full hearts to thank you for the opportunity to share in the great work to-day inaugurated, and I assure you we appreciate the privilege.

We come from the North, the South, the East, and the West to draw from the Lone Star State the new inspiration of liberty that you gave us of the older States in your struggle for independence, and now you are setting us a further example in your successful educational progress.

Columbia University has just spoken to us from among the older institutions of our land. There was a time when we used to rate Lehigh University as of the younger brethren in the educational family. But we have moved up into the middle-aged class. The donation of Asa Packer, amounting

in the aggregate to about three million dollars, and beginning with five hundred thousand dollars in 1865, to found my Alma Mater—Lehigh—was at that time said to be the largest sum ever given to education. But now you spring full-panoplied into the arena with your magnificent endowment, and withal, with the past half-century of experience of our country in the working out of our American system of higher education, of which you may, and will, avail.

Surely your future is bright, and surely the founder of this great institution—great already, greater in its potentialities for the future—merits the application of Sophocles' words where he says in his "Œdipus":

*"Methinks no work so grand
Hath man yet compassed, as, with all he can
Of chance or power, to help his fellow-man."*

MAYOR RICE: Professor Emile Borel, a celebrated mathematician and educator of France, has come to the inauguration of the Rice Institute as the official delegate from the University of Paris, the mother of all modern universities, to participate in our academic festival. You will, I am sure, share the pleasure and honor I feel in introducing him to you.

PROFESSOR EMILE BOREL: *Mr. Governor, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen*—The presence on this occasion of so many eminent representatives of American and European universities shows clearly with what interest the learned world regards the inauguration of your new university. I am happy to convey to you the greetings and congratulations of the University of Paris, which is one of the oldest of universities. I am happy to thank you, both in its name and in my own, for your cordial hospitality. The municipality of Houston does us the honor of receiving us to-day as its

guests. Permit me to raise my glass to the rapid extension of this great new city, so active and so rich, which, along with its commercial development, has desired to have a corresponding scientific and intellectual development, in such a way as to become doubly a center—namely, a business center and a center of thought. I drink most heartily to the prosperity of the city of Houston and to the prosperity of the Rice Institute.

MAYOR RICE: It is now my pleasure to call upon the president of one of our own Southern universities, who will respond on this occasion for the universities of the South—Chancellor Kirkland of Vanderbilt University.

CHANCELLOR JAMES HAMPTON KIRKLAND: *Your Excellency the Governor, your Honor the Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen*—It is a pleasure to be here on a day that, I think, will live and go down in the history of this country and the State of Texas. I have had the honor as well as the pleasure of attending and participating in many educational conferences and many gatherings of men of science and letters, but I never attended one launched upon such a broad scale—such a truly cosmopolitan scale—as this gathering incident to the dedication of the Rice Institute. It means that the great colleges of the world recognize the Rice Institute as one of their number.

When all who have participated in these exercises have passed away, and all who are now appearing and bearing the glory of building this new institution have passed, their work and this beginning of this Institute will be remembered in history as the greatest day in the history of Houston and Texas.

It is a pleasant thing, Governor Colquitt, to come to Texas. Tennesseans know that, and they come here in

abundance. You are gracious, Mr. Mayor, to call for comment from a representative of my State. Among the names most revered in the State of which I am a citizen is the name of Sam Houston. Do you know, sir, that a very curious thing is this, that every historian of Tennessee who has written about Sam Houston and his life has raised the question, but never found a solution of the question, why Sam Houston ever left Tennessee and came to Texas. But no man who has ever lived in Texas has ever raised the question.

It is of very great significance that the governor of the State is here from his duties to take part in the exercises of to-day, to participate in the inauguration of a great private institution, as he has just said. I do not agree with the governor. This great institution that you are launching here is not a private institution. There are no private educational institutions, gentlemen. All institutions for the education of a people are public institutions, devoted to public acts and public enterprise, and always part of the great public interest. As we come to this festal day, a few things of great significance occur to those of us who are working in other institutions, especially so if those institutions happen to be in the South.

In the first place, the Rice Institute begins its history without the dreaded poverty that has marked the growth of every Southern institution, and of almost every institution in this country, until now. We of the South know what it is to pass through individual and institutional poverty, and of the two, I may say that institutional poverty is worse, much worse, than individual poverty, more harassing and harder to get rid of.

Another striking factor in the greatness of this institution I speak of with real gratification. The Rice Institute will not be compelled to follow the example of so many insti-

tutions, and engage in the mad race for numbers. It can afford, under its endowment, to make it a badge of honor to have been a student of the Rice Institute, and I am sure that just such high standards will be maintained.

Still another factor I would mention—though I mention none of these things to give advice. This institution will be conducted, by the history of its being, to a certain specific line of work, to a line that we may call scientific in its broadest sense, scientific in a sense that would neglect neither the spiritual nor the commercial value of science. Now, in that broad sense, we look to this institution to be a mediator between those two great ideas. And in this work of mediation it will do great and needed service to the South. What resources of the land here are undeveloped! Throughout our whole history we have been lingering along, and we have followed along the way of our fathers, believing that what was good enough for them would be good enough for us. But now in the South we realize that, while we honor the past, the past is not good enough for the present and much less is it good enough for the future. Our leaders are breaking away from the past traditions; they are thinking for themselves, and they are speaking for themselves. The day is near at hand when Southern men shall again enter in power and influence the halls of state which their fathers held under possession in the earlier years of our national history.

And so I look to the Rice Institute to lead a new South, a South that shall walk hand in hand, in science, industry, and service, with all other sections of our country and with the whole world.

MAYOR RICE: Among the distinguished European scientists present this afternoon is Professor Hugo de Vries of

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Amsterdam, eminent for his researches in biology. I now have much pleasure in presenting him to you.

PROFESSOR HUGO DE VRIES: *Mr. Governor, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen*—I bring greetings from the University of Amsterdam to the Rice Institute, now entering upon a university career begun under conditions the most favorable. The universities of the old world as well as the universities of the new world welcome the advent of this new university. There is room in the world for more and more universities, because the tasks of science and education, always vast, are becoming vaster and vaster. This is not my first visit to America. And here in Houston and in Texas, as on previous visits, I find warm hospitality and friendly greeting. I am grateful to the president and trustees of the Rice Institute, to the mayor and citizens of Houston, and to the governor and people of Texas for the gracious hospitality I am enjoying as their guest. For the new university I predict a bright future full of service to science and to Texas. To that prosperous future I raise my glass in high hopes and confident expectation.

MAYOR RICE: We have listened to warm responses from our foreign guests, and to equally cordial expressions from American institutions of the North, South, East, and West. It is now my pleasure to call upon a university man of Texas who will respond for the universities and colleges of this State—President Samuel Palmer Brooks of Baylor University.

PRESIDENT SAMUEL PALMER BROOKS: *Your Excellency the Governor, your Honor the Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen*—I confess very much personal embarrassment that I, a simple Texan, reared on the frontier of things, should be

associated here with these distinguished guests who have come from the learned scientific centers of the world. I am conscious of my inability to measure language and knowledge with these men, skilled as all of them are in their respective fields.

Gentlemen of the scientific world, you have a welcome in Texas. What we may lack in expressing this welcome we fill full in the bounty of our sincerity. For your learning we have high respect. You have ceased to surprise us by your discoveries. If you shall reduce all old physical elements to one, or conserve the waves of the ever-rolling sea, or extract the heat of unmined coal, or find perpetual motion, or increase the working-hours of honey-bees by crossing them with lightning-bugs, we Texans will never run from the facts.

President Lovett, Professors of Rice Institute, Members of the Board of Trustees, I give congratulation to you each and all on this happy day, the culmination of labors that make possible so auspicious an opening of this promising institution.

Ladies and gentlemen all, we here together represent the aristocracy of science and letters, which at last is a pure democracy where the merit of every man counts. However exalted we may become, we delight to sit at the feet of those able to teach us. However humble may be the walk and work of the schoolmaster, it carries the dominant note of strength, without limits of language or law or geography. However many of the old and worthy universities and colleges of the East there may be, none will fail to rejoice at the coming of any new institution giving promise of genuine power in the development of men. Right well we know there is no competition in real culture.

As I speak these words of congratulation on this felici-

tous occasion, I do not forget the true and tried work of the institutions of learning in Texas. While young to you, I remind you that Baylor University received its charter from the Republic of Texas, which in the council-chamber of the nations of the earth for ten years was counted worthy to sit in the person of its ambassadors. Her students have walked untrodden places and welcomed learning from any source. Baylor as a private institution does not work alone. By her side in fidelity to truth and service have walked Southwestern, Austin College, and others of fewer years. I ask you to look out upon the work of the University of Texas, whose president and representatives are with us to-day. Its graduates are actually sitting in the councils of learning and power the world over. Nor do I forget the Agricultural and Mechanical College, whose purpose has been, and is, to dignify the knowledge of things pertaining to the earth and the handicrafts of men.

All Texas institutions are ready to learn and to utilize the experience of others. We do not work for ourselves, but for our country. We do not put limits on what we call our country. We love our State, our nation; we love the world, and believe heartily that we are a part of it. We believe in the brotherhood of man, and that God is no respecter of persons. Our work is world-wide.

On behalf of the educational institutions of Texas which I have the honor to represent, let me give thanks to the president and trustees of the Rice Institute for the pleasures of this day, and hope for them fields of usefulness as broad as the world. With you, sirs, we join hands in common service for the advancement of the human race.

MAYOR RICE: On behalf of our citizens, I thank all these gentlemen most warmly for the addresses with which they

have honored us on this occasion. I beg also to assure them and all of you that the welcome which we have extended at this time has no limit either of duration or season. We want you to stay not only through the celebration of the next few days, but just as much longer as you can conveniently arrange to remain with us, and we want you to return to see us just as often as you can. Before closing the exercises, I extend a cordial invitation to all our guests to sit with the governor and his staff for a group picture that is to be taken in front of this auditorium, immediately following the adjournment of this meeting.